

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-28. (cancelled).

29. (currently amended) A composition comprising a circular vector, wherein said circular vector comprises:

- a) a toxic gene sequence,
- b) a nucleic acid sequence with first and second ends, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises the following elements between said first and second ends of said nucleic acid sequence;
 - i) first and second ends,
 - ii) i) a selectable marker region,
 - iii) ii) an origin of replication, and
 - iv) iii) a first transcriptional terminator downstream of said selectable marker region;
- c) a second transcriptional terminator between said toxic gene sequence and said first end of said nucleic acid sequence; and
- d) a third transcriptional terminator between said toxic gene sequence and said second end of said nucleic acid sequence.

30. (previously presented) The composition of Claim 29, wherein said first transcriptional terminator is configured to terminate RNA transcripts encoded by at least one selectable marker sequence in said selectable marker region.

31. (currently amended) The composition of Claim 29, wherein said nucleic acid sequence further comprises a first non-promoter sequence between said first end of said nucleic acid sequence and said selectable marker region, and a second non-promoter sequence between said second end of said nucleic acid sequence and said selectable marker region, wherein each of said first and second non-promoter sequences are unable to serve as an operable promoter in a host cell.

32. (currently amended) The composition of Claim 29, wherein said selectable marker region comprises first and second selectable marker genes sequences.

33. (previously presented) The composition of Claim 29, wherein said circular vector further comprises two primer binding sites.

34. (previously presented) The composition of Claim 29, wherein said toxic gene, when expressed, is configured to prevent growth of a host cell.

35. (currently amended) A method of forming a vector component comprising;

- a) providing;
 - i) a composition comprising a first circular vector, wherein said first circular vector comprises:
 - A) a toxic gene sequence,
 - B) a nucleic acid sequence with first and second ends, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises the following elements between said first and second ends of said nucleic acid sequence;
 - I) first and second ends;
 - II) a selectable marker region,
 - III) an origin of replication, and
 - IV) a first transcriptional terminator downstream of said selectable marker region;
 - C) a second transcriptional terminator between said toxic gene sequence and said first end of said nucleic acid sequence;
 - D) a third transcriptional terminator between said toxic gene sequence and said second end of said nucleic acid sequence;
 - E) a first restriction enzyme recognition site between said toxic gene sequence and said second transcriptional terminator; and
 - F) a second restriction enzyme recognition site between said toxic gene sequence and said third transcriptional terminator; and
 - ii) one or more restriction enzymes; and

b) mixing said composition with said one or more restriction enzymes such that said first circular vector is cleaved at said first and second restriction enzyme recognition sites, thereby generating a vector component with first and second free ends.

36. (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein said first transcriptional terminator is configured to terminate RNA transcripts encoded by at least one selectable marker sequence in said selectable marker region.

37. (currently amended) The method of Claim 35, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a first non-promoter sequence between said first end of said nucleic acid sequence and said selectable marker region, and a second non-promoter sequence between said second end of said nucleic acid sequence and said selectable marker region, wherein each of said first and second non-promoter sequences are unable to serve as an operable promoter in a host cell.

38. (currently amended) The method of Claim 35, wherein said selectable marker region comprises first and second selectable marker genes sequences.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein said first circular vector further comprises two primer binding sites.

40. (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein said toxic gene, when expressed, is configured to prevent growth of a host cell.

41. (previously presented) The method of Claim 35, further comprising step c) mixing said vector component with a library of insert sequences under condition such that a second circular vector is generated, wherein said second circular vector comprises at least one insert sequence.